

The Keck Institute for Space Studies
presents the following webinar:

OSIRIS-REx Sample Return from Asteroid Bennu

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5:00 PM Lecture

NASA's OSIRIS-REx Mission traveled to Bennu, a carbon-rich, near-Earth asteroid. The spacecraft launched on September 8, 2016, and rendezvoused with Bennu in 2018. Sample collection from site Nightingale occurred in October 2020.

The sample will return to Earth in 2023 and will be the first for a U.S. mission. The sample may hold clues to the origin of the solar system and the organic molecules that may have seeded life on Earth. The mission is in an exciting phase right now as the OSIRIS-REx spacecraft operations continue in the Sample Acquisition campaign.

The University of Arizona leads the mission for NASA, and it is also providing the science operations team and the spacecraft's camera system. NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center provides overall mission management. Lockheed Martin Space Systems built the spacecraft. United Launch Alliance built the mission's Atlas V launch vehicle.

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